

Minnesota Legislative Commission on the Economic Status of Women

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Cheryl Hoium, *Assistant Director*
Michelle Adamiak, *Communications and
Policy Specialist*

CONTACT INFORMATION

LCESW
85 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

PHONE: 651-296-8590 or 1-800-657-3949

FAX: 651-297-3697

E-MAIL:
lcesw@commissions.leg.state.mn.us

INTERNET:
www.commissions.leg.state.mn.us/lcesw

TTY/TTD COMMUNICATION:
contact us through the Minnesota Relay
Service at 1-800-627-3529

FERTILITY AND BIRTH RATES IN THE U.S. AND MN

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DATA SOURCES

Data compiled from the following sources:

National Center for Health Statistics (*Births: Final Data for 1999*,
Births: Preliminary Data for 2000, and *Births to Teenagers in the
United States, 1940-2000*)

U.S. Bureau of the Census (*Fertility of American Women: June 2000*
and *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1980 and 2000* editions)

Minnesota Department of Health (*1999 Minnesota Health Statistics*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome Diane Cushman. The Commission is pleased to announce the appointment of Diane Cushman as director. Cushman brings 20 years of experience in corporate and healthcare environments to the Commission. Most recently she worked with the St. Paul Companies for 12 years, creating family-friendly workplace programs.

Updated Fact Sheets. The Labor Force Participation of MN and U.S. Women, Earnings of U.S. Women, and Earnings Gap in the U.S. fact sheets have been updated. These and other facts sheets are available on our website or by request from our office.

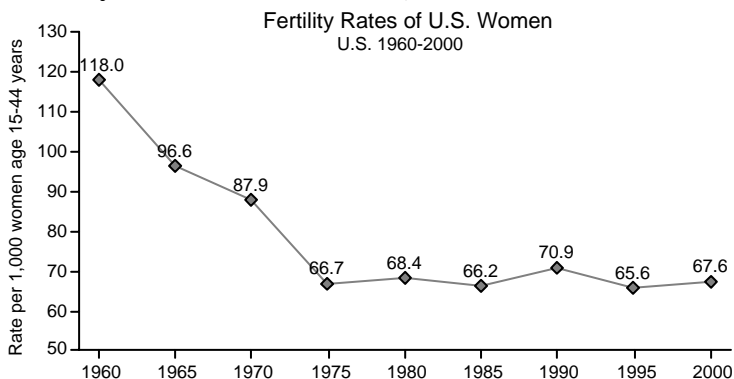
DEFINITIONS

Fertility Rates: Total number of births to all women (regardless of age of mother), per 1,000 women of child bearing age. Child bearing age is usually considered to be age 15 to 44 years.

Birth Rates: Number of births to a specific group per 1,000 women in that group. In other contexts, defined as number of births per 1,000 total population.

FERTILITY RATES

Fertility Rates of U.S. Women, 1960-2000



U.S. fertility rates declined dramatically between 1960 and 1975. Since 1975, fertility rates have been relatively stable.

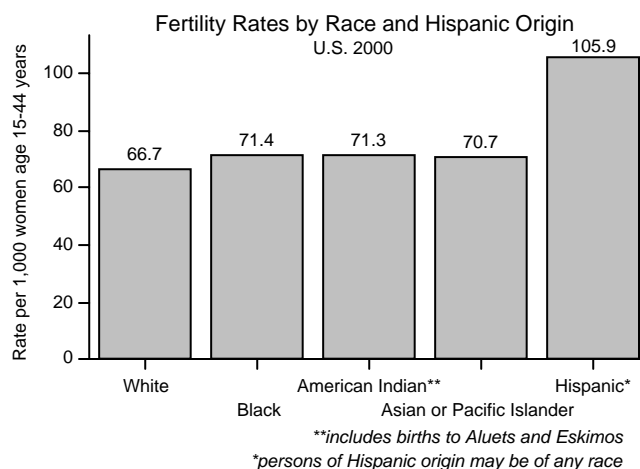
- From 1960 to 1975, fertility rates for U.S. women declined 43 percent.
- Since 1975, fertility rates have ranged from 65.0 to 70.9 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years.
- In 2000, the fertility rate was 67.6 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years, a 3 percent increase from 1999 and the third consecutive year of increase.

Fertility Rates by Race and Hispanic Origin

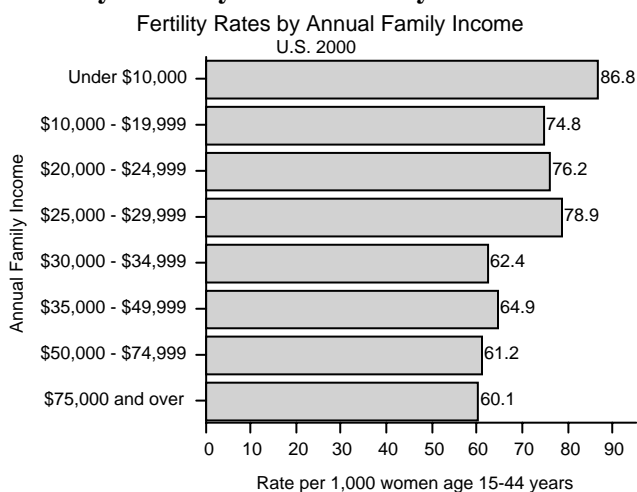
U.S. fertility rates varied by race and Hispanic origin.

- Hispanic* women had the highest fertility rate among all race and origin groups (105.9 births per 1,000 Hispanic women age 15 to 44 years) in 2000. The fertility rate for women of Hispanic origin was 59 percent higher than the comparable rate for White women (66.7 births per 1,000 White women age 15 to 44 years), the racial group with the lowest fertility rate.
- In 2000, Black, American Indian, and Asian or Pacific Islander women had fertility rates of just over 70 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years in those groups.

*Persons of Hispanic Origin may be of any race.



Fertility Rates by Annual Family Income



U.S. fertility rates were higher for women with annual family incomes below \$30,000 and lower for women with annual family incomes of \$30,000 and over.

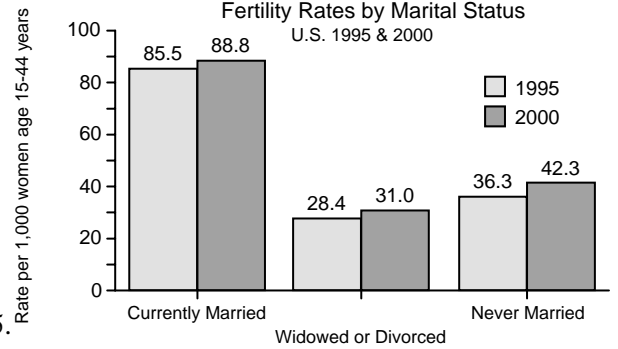
- In 2000, the fertility rate was highest (86.8 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years) for women with annual family incomes below \$10,000.
- The fertility rate was second highest (78.9 per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years) for women with annual family incomes of \$25,000 to \$29,999 in 2000.
- The fertility rate was lowest (60.1 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years) in 2000 for women with annual family incomes of \$75,000 and over.

FERTILITY RATES CONTINUED

Fertility Rates by Marital Status

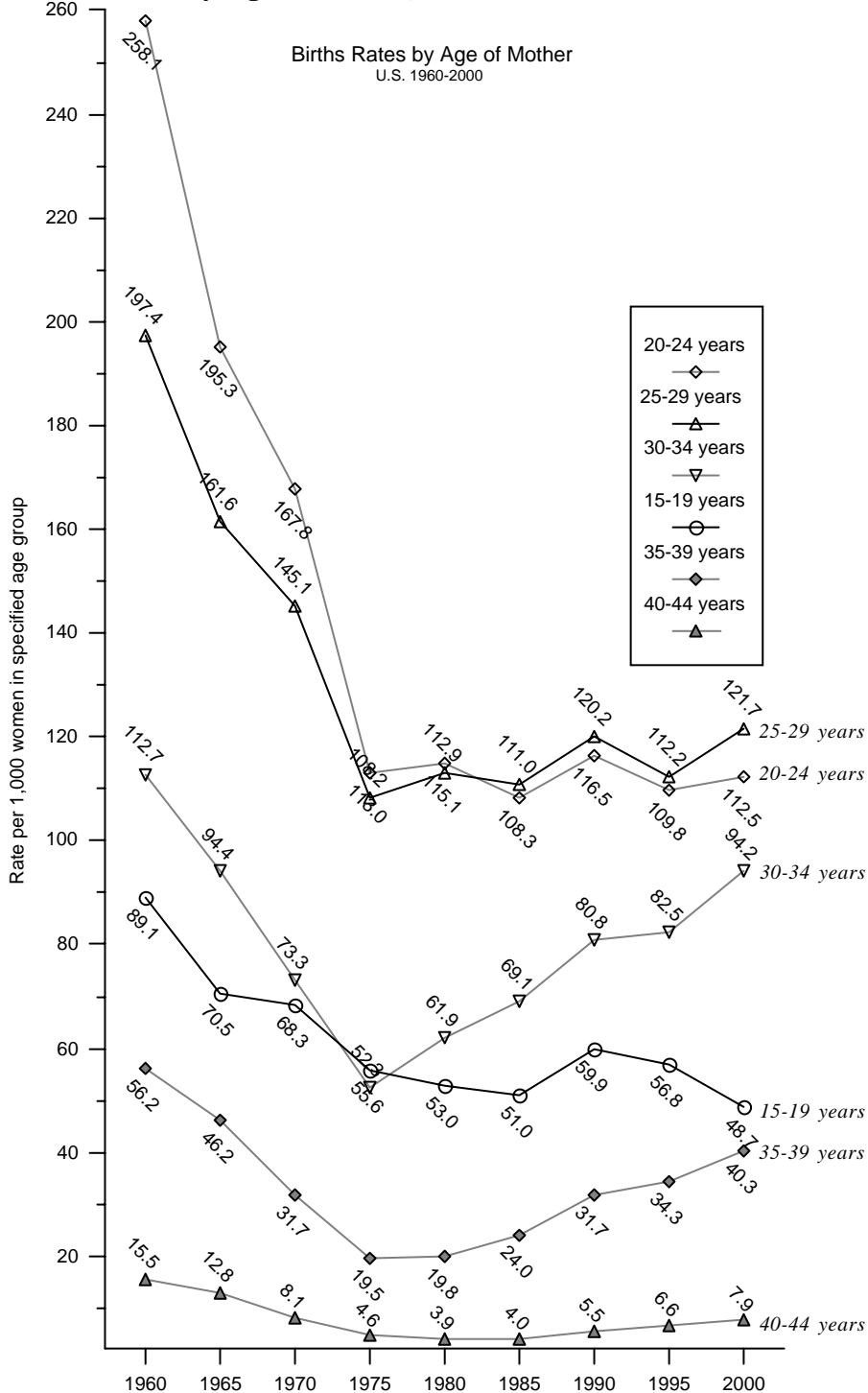
U.S. fertility rates varied by marital status and rates increased from 1995 to 2000 for married, widowed or divorced, and never married women.

- Married women had the highest fertility rate (88.8 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years) in 2000.
- Widowed or divorced women had the lowest fertility rate (31.0 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years) in 2000.
- Never married women had a fertility rate of 42.3 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years in 2000, a 16.5 percent increase from 1995.



BIRTH RATES

Birth Rates by Age of Mother, 1960-2000



Birth rates of U.S. women varied widely by age and patterns in birth rates have changed over the years.

- Birth rates decreased dramatically for all age groups from 1960 to 1975.

Women Age 20 years and over

- From 1975 to 2000, birth rates more than doubled for women age 35 to 39 years.
- From 1975 to 2000, birth rates of women age 30 to 34 years increased 80 percent.
- From 1975 to 2000, birth rates increased by 72 percent for women age 40 to 44 years.
- In 2000, there were 121.7 births to women age 25 to 29 years per 1,000 women in that age group. This was the highest birth rate of all age groups in 2000. Women age 25 to 29 years have had the highest birth rates since 1983.
- In 2000, women age 20 to 24 years had the second highest birth rate (112.5 births per 1,000 women age 20 to 24 years), followed by women age 30 to 34 years (94.2 births per 1,000 women age 30 to 34 years).

Teenage Women Age 15 to 19 years

- Birth rates of teenage women age 15 to 19 years declined significantly between 1960 and 1985, increased between 1986 and 1991, and declined from 1991 to 2000.
- The 2000 birth rate for teenagers age 15 to 19 years was an historic low. The birth rate of teenagers age 15 to 19 years was 48.7 births per 1,000 women of that age group in 2000, a 2 percent decline from 1999.

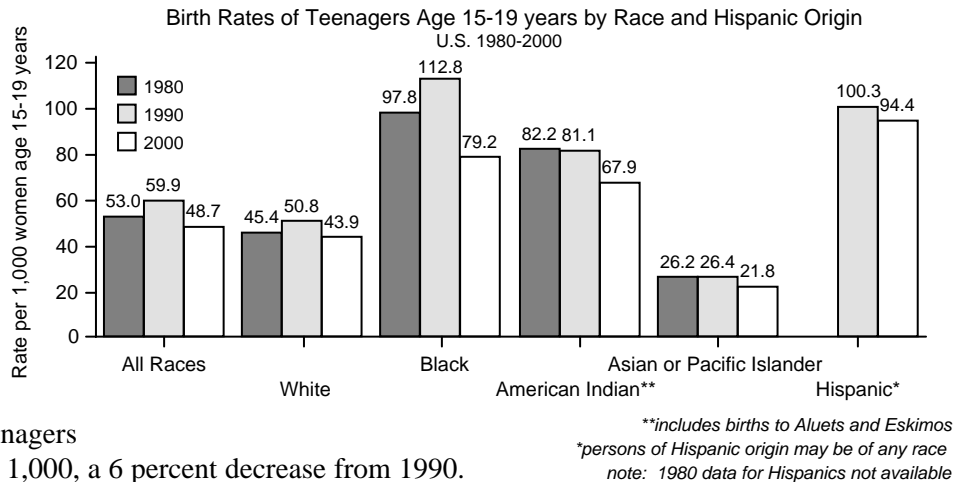
U.S. BIRTH RATES CONTINUED

Birth Rates of Teenagers by Race and Hispanic Origin

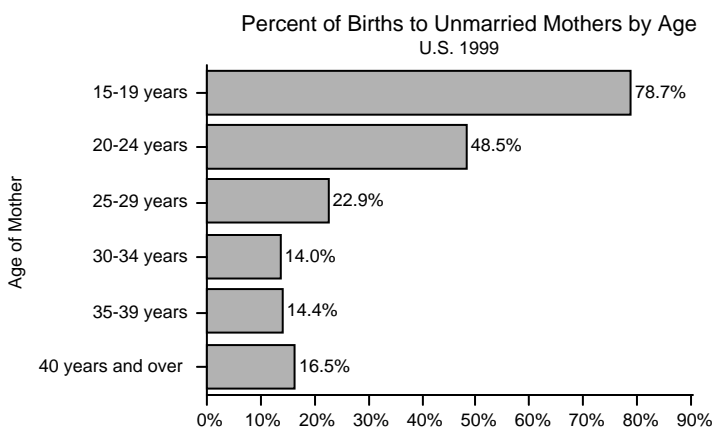
U.S. birth rates of teenagers age 15 to 19 years varied by race and Hispanic origin with young women of Hispanic origin having the highest rate and Asian or Pacific Islanders having the lowest rate.

- From 1990 to 2000, birth rates of teenagers age 15 to 19 years decreased for all groups. Rates decreased the most for Black teenagers and the least for Hispanic* teenagers.
- In 2000, the birth rate for Hispanic teenagers age 15 to 19 years was 94.4 births per 1,000, a 6 percent decrease from 1990.
- The birth rate for Black women age 15 to 19 years reached a low of 79.2 births per 1,000 in 2000, a 30 percent decrease from 1990.
- The birth rate for Asian or Pacific Islander women age 15 to 19 years reached a low of 21.8 in 2000, down 17 percent from 1990.

**Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.*



PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED WOMEN BY AGE



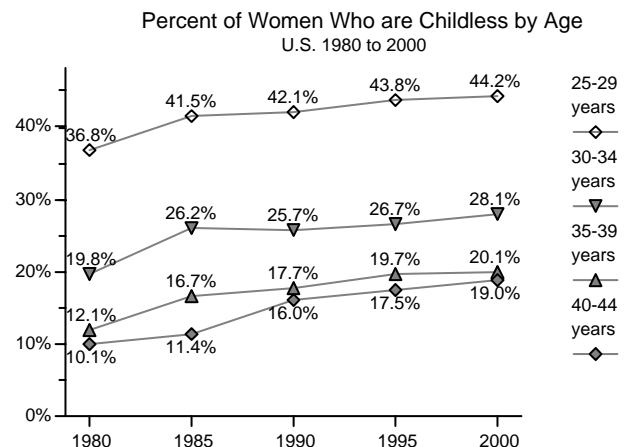
The percent of births to unmarried women in the U.S. is highest for teenage women and lowest for women age 30 to 34 years.

- In 1999, one-third of births (33.0%) were to unmarried women. This represented nearly an 80 percent increase from 1980 when 18.4 percent of births were to unmarried women.
- More than three quarters (78.7%) of women age 15 to 19 years who gave birth in 1999 were unmarried, the highest percentage among all age groups.
- In 1999, fourteen percent of births to women age 30 to 34 years were to unmarried women. The percent of births to unmarried women age 35 years and over was slightly higher.

PERCENT OF WOMEN WHO ARE CHILDLESS BY AGE

The percent of U.S. women who are childless has increased in the last 20 years.

- Overall, 43 percent of women age 15 to 44 years were childless in 2000.
- Less than three in ten women (28.1%) age 30 to 34 years were childless in 2000, an increase of 42 percent since 1980.
- In 2000, one in five (20.1%) women age 35 to 39 years were childless. This represents a 66 percent increase from 1980 when 12.1 percent of women in this age group were childless.
- Among women age 40 to 44 years, just under one-fifth (19.0%) were childless in 2000, nearly double the percent of women who were of the same age and childless in 1980 (10.1%).



MINNESOTA FERTILITY AND BIRTH DATA

Live Births

In 1999, there were 65,953 live births in Minnesota, an increase of 1.1 percent from 1998.

Fertility Rates

In 1999, the state fertility rate was 62.5 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years. Watonwan county had the highest fertility rate (83.3 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years) and Cook county had the lowest fertility rate (46.7 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years) in 1999.

Percent of Births to Unmarried Women

Just over one quarter (25.7%) of births in Minnesota were to unmarried women in 1999. Mahnommen county had the highest rate (60.3%) of births to unmarried women and Lincoln county had the lowest rate (10.6%).

Percent of Births to Teenagers Age 19 years and under

In 1999, 8.4 percent of births were to teenagers age 19 years and under in Minnesota. At the county level, the percent of births to teenagers varied from 2.3 percent in Norman county to 27.0 percent in Lake of the Woods county.

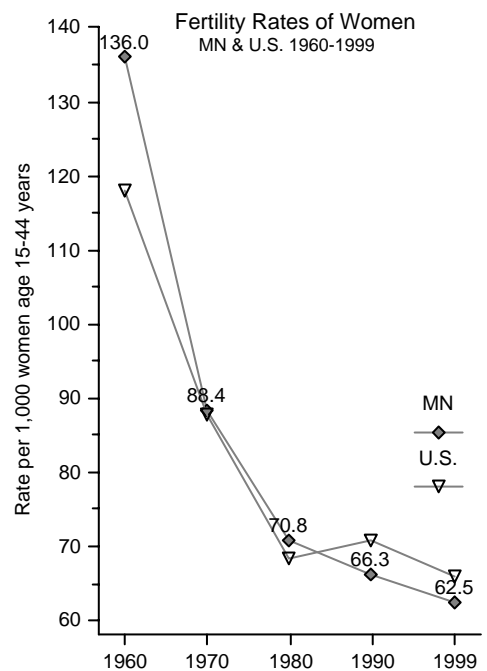
These data will be updated on our website in 2002 when 2000 Minnesota fertility and birth data are available.

Additional county data available in "1999 Minnesota Health Statistics" at: www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/99annsum/live.pdf

Fertility Rates of Minnesota and U.S. Women, 1960-1999

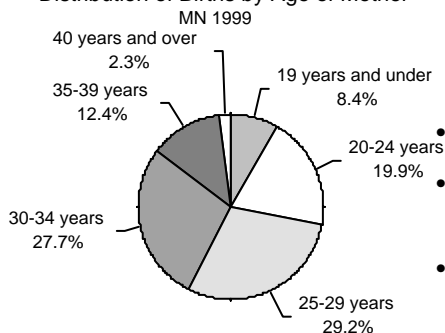
Minnesota fertility rates declined dramatically between 1960 and 1980, and continued to decline during the 1990s.

- In 1960, the fertility rate for Minnesota women was 136.0 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years.
- From 1960 to 1980, the fertility rate in Minnesota decreased nearly 48 percent to 70.8 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years.
- In 1999, Minnesota's fertility rate was 62.5 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years, compared to a national fertility rate of 65.9.
- Minnesota's lowest fertility rate (59.7 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44 years) since 1940 was reported in 1996.
- Since 1987, the fertility rate of Minnesota women has been consistently lower than the national fertility rate.



Distribution of Births by Age of Mother

Distribution of Births by Age of Mother



- In 1999, more than half (56.9%) of Minnesota births were to women age 25 to 34 years.
- Births to women age 35 years and over accounted for fifteen percent (14.7%) of births in 1999.
- Three percent (2.8%) of births in Minnesota were to women age 17 years and under and 5.6 percent of birth were to women age 18 to 19 years in 1999.

Births to Teenagers

- In 1999 there were 5,513 births to women age 15 to 19 years in Minnesota, a 3 percent decrease from 1998.
- The teenage birth rate in Minnesota was 30.0 births per 1,000 women age 15 to 19 years in 1999. This was nearly 40 percent lower than the U.S. rate (49.6) and the sixth lowest state rate in the United States.
- There were large disparities in Minnesota in the birth rates of Hispanic* and Black teenagers age 15 to 19 years and their White counterparts in 1999. The birth rate of Hispanic teenagers was 137.5 per 1,000 and the birth rate of Black teenagers was 109.9 births per 1,000 in 1999. This compared to a rate of 24.0 births per 1,000 for White teenagers.

**Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.*